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ABSTRACT

Defining adult education in a very broad sense, the paper is an historical survey of the opportunities that were available for both the formal and informal education of adults from the 1860's to 1914. It presents information (drawn to a great extent from contemporary newspaper accounts) about the educational services provided by libraries; literary, cultural, art, and debating societies; public schools (through night and extension classes); national and regional organizations; special interest groups (for sailors, women, Oriental immigrants, various trades, businesses, and professions); private tutors; commercial schools; and newspapers. It also deals with the involvement of industry and labor unions in the education of its personnel, and with in-service training for teachers and other professionals. Whenever it is available, information about the number and kinds of courses, enrollments, fees, and lecturers is also included. (PR)

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ADULT EDUCATION IN VANCOUVER BEFORE 1914

GORDON R. SELMAN

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ADULT EDUCATION IN VANCOUVER BEFORE 1914

The Centre for Continuing Education
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Vancouver, Canada, 1975

This paper was prepared by Gordon R. Selman
U.B.C. Adult Education Research Centre

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ABOUT THIS SERIES AND THIS PAPER

This Occasional Paper is the ninth in a series being published by the Centre for Continuing Education. Our aim is to contribute to the field of adult education by publishing monographs which originate here at The University of British Columbia and are deemed to be worthy of reaching a wider audience than would otherwise be the case.

The author of this paper, Gordon R. Selman, was until recently the Director of the Centre for Continuing Education. During this twenty years of association with the Centre (formerly the Extension Department) he has been very active in the field at the local, national and international level. His academic background (B.A. in History and International Studies and M.A. in History) as well as his keen interest in the roots of adult education, led him increasingly to research in the history and development of adult education in Canada and particularly in British Columbia. He has now joined the Faculty of Education full-time as an Associate Professor and plans to devote more time to historical research of adult education in British Columbia.

Gordon Selman published over the last few years numerous articles on historical aspects of adult education in Canada, among these articles concerned with the development of the field in Canada and in British Columbia, the extension work at this University and, most recently, a series of articles on the pioneering days of adult education in this Province. The Canadian Association for Adult Education published his monograph A History of Fifty Years of Extension Service of The University of British Columbia 1915 to 1965, and his paper Toward Co-operation: The Development of a Provincial Voice for Adult Education in British Columbia, 1953 to 1962 was published earlier in this series (Occasional

Paper No. 3, November, 1969). He has completed two book-length unpublished works, his M.A. thesis on the history of the U.B.C. Extension Department, and a manuscript on adult education in British Columbia before 1914. This Occasional Paper is based on a chapter in the latter manuscript.

This paper traces the antecedents of Vancouver's lively adult education of today as far back as the late 1860's, pointing out the considerable activities around the turn of the Century. We are thankful to Gordon Selman for making the roots of the field in our own community known to us and believe this paper will be of considerable interest beyond the boundaries of our city and Province.

Jindra Kulich
Acting Director

AUTHOR'S PREFACE

During the past several years, I have been doing research on the early development of adult education in British Columbia. The results of some of this work have been published in a limited edition and made available to several libraries and university departments.[1] In this connection, I have taken a special interest in my home town, Vancouver, presenting in considerable detail whatever information I could find about adult education as it developed there. The account which follows here is based on this other work, but goes into less detail, in terms of both content and documentation.

It has been necessary, in connection with this work, to arrive at a satisfactory definition of adult education for present purposes. Because the research being carried out was the first attempt to review many of the primary sources available, it seemed wise to be as inclusive as possible. I therefore turned to the language of the well-known 1919 Report on adult education in the United Kingdom which defined it as:

> all the deliberate efforts by which men and women attempt to satisfy their thirst for knowledge, to equip themselves for their responsibilities as citizens and members of society or to find opportunities for self-expression.[2]

This formulation made it appropriate to include a variety of activities which might have been excluded by a narrower, more technical definition which we might find appropriate today.

Vancouver - indeed the whole of British Columbia - was late to be settled compared to many other parts of North America. But once established, it grew very rapidly, passing through a physical and social evolution in a few decades which was experienced by many older communities over a much longer period of time. This

may help to explain the erratic development and short duration of some of the organizations and forms of adult education which appeared in the city in this early period. For its size, and considering its youth, Vancouver had by 1914 developed a relatively wide range of adult education activities.

ADULT EDUCATION IN VANCOUVER BEFORE 1914

The story of the development of Vancouver from its beginnings in the 1860's until the outbreak of the World War in 1914 is an amazing one. The period of early settlement through to the early 1880's was one of feverish industrial activity around the two main mills on Burrard Inlet at Moodyville on the north shore and Hastings Mill on the south - but the number of people involved was small. Burrard Inlet was still seen by many as a recreational area for New Westminster. Although the timber industry developed at a constantly quickening pace, with at times as many as forty ships in the harbor either loading or waiting their turn, and while the Inlet was rising to a position as one of the greatest timber ports in the world, still the growth of permanent settlement was small. Vancouver's historian, Alan Morley, has referred to this period as "a quiet, placid and on the whole idyllic time":

> The population...continued to increase in the measure necessary to conduct the business of a flourishing port, but only to that extent. The inlet settlements had little attraction for the speculators and minor capitalists who, since 1871, had been arriving in considerable numbers in B.C. in anticipation of the coming of the railroad.[3]

But the next few years changed all that. By 1882, it became clear that Burrard Inlet would be the terminus of the railway, although at first it was assumed it would be at the eastern end of the Inlet, at Port Moody. As soon as it was decided that Coal Harbor, at the village of Granville, would be the actual terminus, the rush was on. From an estimated population of 400 in 1881, the town increased to 2,000 in 1886. There were 100 buildings in the town in February of 1886 and 800 by June. Lots which sold for $300 in March were sold again for $1,000 in June. Granville was incorporated as the City of Vancouver in April. The great fire which wiped out the city in June of 1886 caused but a pause in the wave of expansion.

From 1886 until 1892 was a great boom period for the city. With the extension of the railway from Port Moody in 1887, and the inauguration of the trans-Pacific shipping routes, the transportation and communication links which were to be the vital factors in the growth of Vancouver, were solidly established.[4] From this point, there was no question that it was in due course to become the dominant center in the province. By 1888 there were 8,000 persons in the city and by 1892, 15,000. There was big money in the community, including most obviously the investment being made by the C.P.R. The capital was coming in from all parts of the world, especially central Canada, the United States and Great Britain, and although there was as yet a very modest industrial base (mostly lumbering and fish canning) Vancouver was becoming the supply center and regional financial center for the whole province. In this boom period, cultural and educational activities took a pronounced step forward and it is particularly obvious from the evidence that the early years of the 1890's were a definite peak as far as this work was concerned.

In the mid-1890's, Vancouver was a victim of the severe world-wide depression. By 1893 it was hit hard. At its early stage of development the city was very vulnerable to a shortage of credit and capital. Contracts were cancelled, wages fell, the land boom was temporarily over and unemployment was high. Things began to move again by late 1897 and the Klondike gold rush, although its main financial benefits fell to Victoria and Seattle, provided a spark that set affairs moving again. The boom which followed was of unprecedented proportions and had profound effects on Vancouver. The population rose from 20,000 in 1898, to 26,400 in 1901, 45,000 in 1905 and 120,800 within expanded boundaries in 1911. The population of Vancouver was approximately fifteen per cent of that of the whole province in 1901. By 1911, the figure had increased to over thirty per cent. This period was referred to by Alan Morley as "The Golden Years" in the development of the city and certainly they were times of remarkable growth and development. They were also times of elegance among a broad upper social class, which was

demonstrated in a variety of ways such as dress, architecture and social activities. There was a fantastic real estate boom and the newspapers were full of grandiose schemes for expansion, most of which materialized!

There was a brief recession in 1907-1908, but this represented just a pause in the surge of development as far as Vancouver was concerned. This period too marked the high point of antagonism on the part of some citizens towards the large numbers of oriental immigrants in the city, whose numbers exceeded 20,000 by that time. In September of 1907, an unruly mob of 15,000 men actually invaded "Chinatown area", plundered, broke windows, and attacked many persons. This incident was a manifestation of an anti-oriental sentiment which was widely shared in the community and endorsed by many public figures. A further depression set in by 1912 and remained with the city until the outbreak of the war. This was more severe than the one five years earlier, but was soon forgotten by most citizens in the excitement of the war.

In these pre-war years, Vancouver was a city of grand schemes and ambitions. By 1898, when the population stood at approximately 20,000, the popular slogans of the day were predicting 100,000 residents by 1910. By 1908, when the population stood at something over 60,000, the city boasted a "Progress Club" and a "Half Million Club" which were energetic boosters of the future of the place. In the summer of 1914, as war clouds were gathering and the city was in a severe depression, a "Pageant of Vancouver" was "a success beyond the dreams of the promoters", with "crowded streets and cheering multitudes".[5] Vancouver looked to the future with boundless optimism.

1. Mechanics' Institute

By the late 1860's, there was intense rivalry between Moodyville, the company town adjacent to Sue Moody's mill on the north shore of the Inlet, and Stamp's Mill (soon renamed Hastings Mill) on the south shore. Morley suggests that it was in response

to Moody's creation of a masonic lodge at Moodyville, that J.A. Raymur, the manager of Hastings Mill, set up the New London Mechanics' Institute on the south shore in January of 1869. It seems more likely, however, that to the extent that rivalry was involved at all, Raymur was responding to Moody's launching a Mechanics' Institute the previous fall. The Institute soon changed its name to the Hastings Mill Mechanics' Institute and it apparently collected a small library, which was located in a company boarding house near the mill. Little information is available about the activities of the Institute. Morley states that it was officially opened by Rev. Arthur Browning. A New Westminster newspaper reported in May of 1871 that Rev. Thomas Derrick had spoken at the Institute the previous week on "Enthusiasm". It is probably safe to say that little in the way of educational activities was undertaken by the organization except for the maintenance of a library and reading room. The only other references to the Institute were in connection with two benefit performances for the institution held in the early 1880's.

There is no clear evidence as to why the Institute ceased to function. It appears that it was maintained until the community outside the mill area became attractive enough that the men at the mill chose to live there rather than in the company boarding house. Then the company closed down the boarding house, and the reading room with it.[6]

2. Vancouver Reading Room and Public Library

About a year later, three prominent citizens, under the leadership of Rev. H.G. Fiennes-Clinton, the rector of St. James' Anglican Church, gathered up as many of the Institute's books as they could find, raised some money, and called a public meeting at which the Vancouver Reading Room was formally organized. Established at first on a subscription fee basis, the library was supported by a modest grant from the city by late 1888 and was put on a free service basis. Negotiations with the city in 1890 resulted in significant improvement in the grants from that source

and in the creation of a Library Board on which the city had formal representation. The increase in funds made it possible to add to the collection, expand the library and reading room and employ a paid librarian. The next decade brought considerable expansion in the size of both the collection and circulation figures, but these did not keep pace with the remarkable growth of the city.

In 1898, a special meeting of the Library Board was held to consider the necessity for a new and larger building. This set in motion a series of events which, after many delays, led to the eventual construction of a new building and a vast improvement in the city's library services. The new library building came about as a result of a gift from Andrew Carnegie, and the amount he provided, $50,000, was made available on the customary terms - that the municipality was required to provide the site for the building and to guarantee that it would subsequently provide annually for the operation of the service an amount equal to at least ten per cent of the capital grant. After much detailed discussion over many months as to whether to accept the gift, the selection of a site and the approval of architect's plans, a contractor was finally selected in October of 1901. Construction was under way by the beginning of 1902 and was completed the following year.

The new building provided greatly expanded and improved facilities for the library, of course, and also made it a much more impressive and attractive place to visit. It provided space in which the specialized library services and collections could be more fully developed. In 1901 there were 6,878 volumes in the city lending library (actually down from a few years previous) and 210 in the reference collection. By 1905, there were 11,013 volumes in the library and by 1913 there were 34,000. The increase in circulation was even more spectacular. It rose from 44,000 in 1903 to 79,504 in 1910, 178,098 in 1911 and 330,000 in 1913.[7] In the two years 1912 and 1913, six branch libraries were opened in different sections of the city. A children's department was opened in 1909 and the reference section was greatly strengthened beginning in 1910.

By 1911, the building was taxed to capacity. The News Advertiser ran a full page illustrated article on the institution in February of 1912 and stressed the difficulties under which the service was operating, referring to it as "a public utility grossly overworked and miserably underpaid".[8] The chairman of the Board, Mr. Edward Odlum, made vigorous representations to the City Council on two occasions in early 1913 in which he stressed the urgent need for more space, money, books and staff. He pointed out that the very large circulation which had been experienced the previous year (265,000 volumes) had worn out many of the books and that in order to maintain that pace and to serve a city the size of Vancouver, 100,000 volumes were required, a far cry from the current 34,000. The librarian subsequently made the statement that no library had ever maintained such a circulation on so few volumes. By this time, however, the city was facing the serious depression of the immediate pre-war years and no substantial steps were taken to improve the situation. The library had come a long way since the days of the subscription service launched in 1887, but it faced serious problems which remained unresolved at the end of the period under review.

3. Commercial Libraries and Reading Rooms

There were a considerable number of these institutions in the city during this period. The first of these was one operated by Diplock's Book Store beginning in January of 1891. In order to make use of the 3,000 volume collection, subscribers were required to pay two dollars per quarter, which entitled them to borrow three books at a time. By the early years of the new century, there were several such commercially operated libraries in the city.

Several reading rooms were operated during these years. The Vancouver Hotel announced in November of 1893 that it had opened a new reading room on its premises. When the Collingwood Institute (see below) was opened in 1911, it maintained a library and reading room. In the fall of 1912, a ratepayers' meeting in the suburb of Kerrisdale decided to set aside a room in their municipal hall to be run as a reading room and quiet games room. And in the same

month, the All Saints Church announced that it was going to remedy the lack of such service in the East end of the city by opening a free reading room on their property at Victoria Drive and Pandora Street. It is not known whether those plans materialized.

4. Young Men's Christian Association

In the early fall of 1886, a letter appeared in the Vancouver News lamenting the absence of a free reading room in the community and expressing the hope that a Y.M.C.A. would be formed to meet this need. When, by the end of September, no action was forthcoming, the News urged the mayor to call a public meeting to set things in motion.[9] A meeting was held in late October and a further one early in November at which a Y.M.C.A. was formally organized and plans laid for a building and program. The report of the first meeting indicated that it was intended "to open a reading room and gymnasium and institute a lecture course". The subsequent meeting arranged for monthly meetings of the members, at which it was intended to have programs of "a literary character, selections of prose, poetry, songs and debates to form part of the order of exercises". Progress was rapid in the coming weeks and in late December, work was begun on the construction of a two-storey building for the Association.

The year 1887 was largely given over to the completion of the building, soliciting memberships and funds and the inauguration of group activities. The building was opened in October. The first group activities were religious in character; Bible classes and Sunday afternoon gospel meetings. In addition, the Association maintained a reading room and a social room, which were open from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. This reading room was therefore opened just a few weeks before the Vancouver Reading Room became available, the latter at first on a subscription basis. 1888 to 1898. For most of the next decade, the Y.M.C.A. remained active and conducted a variety of educational activities. Much of this came under the general heading of lectures. Musical evenings were held from time to time as well. The reading room was maintained throughout the period, but little is known about it.

In 1893, shortly following the opening of the Association's new building, the Y.M.C.A. entered the field of educational classes for the first time. In mid-October it was announced that courses in writing, arithmetic, bookkeeping, French and shorthand were to be given. The instructors included some well-known and outstanding persons. This program was expanded the following year to include other subjects such as architectural drawing, music and "elocution". It was announced that classes in any of those subjects would be started as soon as ten students had signed up for a course. There do not appear to have been further classes until after the turn of the century.

One other educational program, the debating and discussion group called the "Current Topics Club" functioned for a few years in this period. It was announced in September of 1894 that such a group was to be formed and this was accomplished in late October. It soon had twenty-five members and was meeting regularly, discussing topics of current interest. The group continued to meet in the two following years, but did not start up again in the fall of 1897, when the Association closed its doors for a period. However, in the following months, when the rooms were being operated as a Young Men's Home, a "Young Men's Debating Society" was meeting. 1898 to 1914. The Association was re-organized in 1898 and a paid general secretary was appointed. By the fall of 1899, the organization was operational once again and continued to be active throughout the remainder of the period, especially after a move into new premises in 1905.

In this fifteen year period, a very active program was built up. The Association was heavily involved in evening class activity before the public school authorities took up that task. Early in 1906, the following announcement appeared in the newspaper:

> The educational agencies in connection with the Y.M.C.A. now include evening classes for men who are working during the day and desire to use part of their leisure time in preparing for promotion. Mr. Edgar Murphy, principal of the Admiral Seymour School, is engaged as teacher of arithmetic and

> business English while Mr. J.R. Cunningham of the Vancouver Business College is the instructor in the penmanship and bookkeeping classes.

In the fall of that year, classes were started again, the year being divided into two ten-week terms. It was announced that classes would be arranged on any subject for which there were 12 students. By November of 1907, 125 students were taking the courses being offered. The following year, 160 students were registered in thirteen subjects. In 1909, 191 students took courses. Subjects mentioned at the time were arithmetic, business English, penmanship, architectural drawing, freehand drawing, plan reading and estimating, gasoline engines and first aid.[10] When the Vancouver School Board started its night school on a large scale in 1910, the Y.M.C.A. ceased offering most of its classes, although work in public speaking and salesmanship were begun as late as 1913 and 1914, respectively.

The Association also maintained its active program of regular public lectures. In addition, a number of specialized educational organizations were operating under Y.M.C.A. auspices. In the fall of 1902, an active Literary Society was formed which continued to meet until at least 1907. At that time it was amalgamated with the Debating Society. The latter had been founded in October of 1903 and was very active. It gave important leadership to the Vancouver Debating League in future years (see below) and was also active in its own right as late as the fall of 1913, at least. Reference has been found in early 1912 to a Tuesday Club, which arranged lectures and discussions on both religious and secular subjects. In the fall of the year, an "Efficiency Club" was formed. It was made up of men in business, but its program ranged over a wide variety of subjects, some of them related to business but others of general interest. This group was still active in the program year 1913-1914.

The Association also maintained its reading room. It was described in early 1901 as "supplied with standard magazines and papers". The annual report given in January of 1903 indicated

that the room was kept open from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. six days a week and from 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday and that forty-five papers and magazines were kept in stock. When the new building was opened in late 1905, expanded facilities became available. A description of the new facilities mentioned not only a "members' reading room" which contained magazines and reference books, but also a "newspaper room".

5. Young Women's Christian Association

The Vancouver Young Women's Christian Association was founded at a series of meetings which began in the fall of 1897 and culminated in May of the following year. The Y.W. put chief emphasis on maintaining a residential facility for girls and young women and providing other services of benefit to these groups, such as the Travellers Aid and an employment bureau. In 1910, for instance, their employment bureau received 3,000 requests from employers for personnel.

No details are available on the educational work of the Association until well after the turn of the century. In the program year 1906-1907, classes in Bible study, physical training and embroidery were operating, involving a total of 70 women. Press reports in February of 1908 indicated that during the previous year, classes in English literature, Bible study, French, shorthand, dressmaking, embroidery, physical training and choral music had been held, with a total enrollment of 150. Millinery, first aid, domestic science and "elementary subjects" were added the next year. Unlike the Y.M.C.A., the Y.W. maintained its modest program of educational classes after the Vancouver School Board began its night classes. In the fall of 1912, it even held a "class rally" in late September to launch the program for the fall. It included the same sort of subjects as had been given previously and at the annual meeting later in the year it was reported that 317 women and girls had taken part in the "classes and clubs" during the year. This increased to 400 the next year. Additional subjects in the program during those last two years of the period included "expression and voice culture", home nursing and Shakespeare.

6. Church-sponsored Lectures, Literary and Debating Societies

As in other centers in the province during the period, the churches were very active in providing lectures for both their members and the general public. Many different congregations became involved in this work. The most active were the Methodists, Presbyterians and Congregationalists, with the Anglicans, Unitarians and some others also conducting programs. These programs ranged all the way from single lectures to ambitious series and included a wide range of subject matter.

Some of the churches organized literary societies and debating organizations. Five or six congregations organized mock parliaments. When the Vancouver Debating League was founded in 1911, at least six churches had teams taking part in the first or succeeding years, the Kitsilano Presbyterian team winning the competition in the year 1911-1912.

7. Ad Hoc Lecture Activity

There was a great deal of lecture activity in Vancouver, as elsewhere, which was either offered on an isolated, ad hoc basis, or was offered under the auspices of organizations which were not primarily educational in character. For instance, a number of lectures were arranged on matters related to the British connection. In the spring of 1889, the noted British political figure and exponent of Imperial Federation, G.R. Parkin, spoke on Imperial Federation to a large meeting chaired and arranged by the mayor. In the spring of 1907, the Imperial Order of Daughters of the Empire offered a public lecture series on "imperial subjects", the first of which was given in mid-March on "Track of the Empire" by Sir Charles Tupper. In the fall of 1909, Mayor C.S. Douglas chaired a public meeting at which a Reverend gentleman from Ireland spoke on "Ireland's Relations to the British Empire". A year later, the United Services Club organized a large public meeting at which G.H. Cowan spoke on the "Naval Question". Literary topics, travel and international affairs were the most frequent subjects as far as other lectures were concerned.

Two special series deserve separate mention. The Rev. H.H. Gowen, who had formerly lived in New Westminster and was now a Congregational minister in Seattle, had given lecture series in Victoria in 1903 and 1905. In 1906 and again the following year, he did so in Vancouver. On the first occasion, the lectures were given for the benefit of the Victorian Order of Nurses and consisted of two series of weekly lectures, one series given in the afternoons and one in the evenings of the same day. The fee was $2.50 for the series, with half price for public and private school students and for professional nurses. The topics were all about literature and were different for the two series. They included - "Poets of Today", "Novels and Novelists", "Sonnets and Sonnet Writers", "The Poets of The Renaissance", and "The American Pantheon of Poetry". Both of these ambitious series were reasonably well attended. In the fall of 1907, a similar double series was again announced, this time the lectures dealing more with individual writers such as Swinburne, Blake, Stevenson and Omar Khayyam. Less detail is available on the lecture activities of Mr. A.N. St. John Mildmay, but they were considerable. During the fall and winter of 1909-1910, he gave a series of weekly lectures on literary subjects which were held in a private home but were open to the public at fifty cents per lecture. In the spring of 1913, he gave a series of seven weekly lectures in a public hall on classical and more recent authors which was described as intended to stimulate interest in the Arts section of the new University of British Columbia which was being planned at the time.

8. Other Literary and Debating Societies

A. Vancouver Institute

During the winter season 1890-1891, while Vancouver was still a very small community, two local leaders, Rev. E.D. McLaren and Mr. W.H. Gallagher, proposed that if a meeting room in the city-owned Market Hall was made available to them free of charge for three evenings a week, they would arrange a series of free entertainments consisting of "popular science, music, literature and debates".[11] The City Council provided the room and there followed a remarkably

successful series of events, the hall frequently being filled to capacity. When the time came in March to conclude the series, the hall was reported as "never before so crowded" for the final concert and in response to popular demand, the season was extended by a few weeks. This was not attempted again the following year.

B. Burrard Literary Society

The story of this organization from its founding in 1889 until its dissolution in 1908, is one of the most interesting chapters in the story of adult education in the pre-war years. In a period when such organizations typically lasted a relatively short period of time, this one maintained an active program consistently for almost twenty years. It appears to have been a "closed" group in the sense that one had to be formally admitted to membership before one could take part in its activities. It is unusual, however, for such a group to receive as much press coverage as this one did. There were some prominent citizens such as Mr. Jonathan Rogers in the group. One of the pioneer members noted that there were also a number of prominent socialists in the organization.[12] It is not known precisely when the group was organized, but evidence indicates that this was likely in the fall of 1889.

For much of its life, the organization seems to have specialized in the standard forms of debating, although from time to time there were indications that some meetings consisted of a lecture followed by a general discussion of the topic. Although it met normally on its own, there were occasional meetings with other groups. The group appeared to be well organized. The normal pattern apparently was to set out the topics for the term at the first meeting in the fall and again in the spring; or in some years, to divide the program year up into three periods, scheduling the meetings from early October to early December; from then until early February; and from then until April. Topics discussed were numerous and varied, most of them related to significant political questions of the day.

Little information is available about the dissolution of the organization. The group started again as usual the fall of 1907,

setting a schedule of topics in early October and again in mid-November. The last press report of a meeting which has been located appeared on January 23, 1908. As far as can be determined, this marked the end of this remarkable organization which had a long and useful life and more than ten years previously had already been described as "one of the oldest and most useful institutions in the city".[13]

C. Vancouver Mock Parliament

This organization was in operation for several years in the early 1890's, although information about its activities is fragmentary. In November of 1890, the press reported that twenty-eight persons had come together and formed the "Vancouver Mock Parliament, Literary and Debating Society". Eighty persons took part in the first debate, held a week later, and 100 in the one a few days later. Several meetings were reported in early 1891 and again in 1893. Meetings were noted in March and April of 1894, but nothing further after that. In late 1897 an attempt was made to reform a mock parliament, but nothing seems to have come of that effort.

D. Mount Pleasant Literary Society

This organization was active during 1901, but it is not known how long it was in operation. The first reference to it which has been found mentioned that the Burrard Club had arranged to debate against the Mount Pleasant Literary Society in mid-February of 1901. There was also some reference to the fact that this group held mock trials as well. In November of the same year, the newspaper carried a list of topics for the Society's meetings through into January of the following year. There was also further indication that mock trials were staged regularly. There were no further indications of the activities of the group.

E. Vancouver Debating League

Beginning in 1911, a number of organizations in the city which had debating clubs or were interested in such activity came together in the Vancouver Debating League. The organization was

formed in November of that year, as a result of initiative taken by the Debating Club of the Y.M.C.A. Such organizations had apparently proven successful in some other centers. Two meetings held during that month resulted in the formation of the League, which had as its stated purposes to improve the public speaking skills of the participants and to keep matters of public interest before the membership of the societies taking part. There were ten organizations taking part in the League the first year. The first debates were held in December and the balance in the early months of the following year. In March of 1912, the League sponsored an Oratorical Contest which was held at the First Presbyterian Church and attended by more than 600 persons.

The League functioned in each of the next three years - through to the end of the period under review. The number of participating groups increased to twenty by 1913, and in the words of the League's historian, were "representative of practically all the political, educational, religious and literary organizations in Vancouver and New Westminster".[14] By early 1914, in addition to the churches represented, there were teams from the Collingwood Institute, Law Students, South Vancouver Liberals, Y.M.C.A., West End Club and Knights of Columbus. One further group, the Round Table Debating Club, was mentioned later in that year.

F. Collingwood Institute (Bursill Institute)

In late 1911 or early 1912, John F. Bursill, a well-known newspaperman and literary figure, founded the Collingwood Institute and Free Library in the South Vancouver area. The Institute, often referred to as the Bursill Institute, became a focal point for a variety of literary, musical and social activities. In spite of the fact that the organization was consistently hampered by debts, many of its activities were outstandingly successful. An "entertainment" held in February of 1912 attracted an audience of approximately 300 and a sketch written by Bursill himself was the main item on the program. "Several hundred people" attended a similar event the following month. Mr. Charles Hill-Tout lectured at the Institute in the fall of 1913 and in February of 1914 a gala

musical and literary evening featuring the works of Charles Dickens was held. Bursill was well known in the area as the leading expert on Dickens and he lectured frequently on topics connected with the life and writing of the great Victorian novelist.

The Institute also maintained a library from its very early stages, although little is known about it. The Vancouver Daily World stated in January of 1915 that there were 2,500 books in the collection, but nothing is known about the nature of the collection or the extent of its use. There was a reference at one point to a Collingwood Mock Parliament, which may have been connected with the Institute.

G. Shakespeare, Dickens and Burns Clubs

The newspaper carried an announcement in October of 1904 that an organizational meeting was to be held that month for a local Shakespearian Club. Little is known of this group, but it was still operative in 1913. In January of that year in an article about F.W. Dyke, a prominent local musician, the following passage appeared:

> For five or six years he has been an enthusiastic member of the local Shakespearean Society of which Mr. E.C. Kilby is the moving spirit, and which meets together regularly to read and discuss the plays of the master dramatist.[15]

There was also a Dickens Club in the city. It was a small, exclusive group for some years, but the membership was widened somewhat in 1911 on the occasion of the centennial of Dickens' birth. The only references to a local Burns Club which have been found were news items carried in the press in February and March of 1912, in which two successive "regular meetings" were mentioned.

9. The Vancouver Art Association, the Art, Historical and Scientific Association and Vancouver Museum

In 1889, the Vancouver Art Association, the first organization of its kind in the city, was founded by a small group of interested citizens. It was expanded five years later to include historical and scientific fields of interest and thereafter became,

along with the Y.M.C.A., one of the two most outstanding voluntary organizations in the city in terms of their adult education activities.

On January 18, 1889, the News Advertiser carried a letter to the editor signed by "Art" which stressed the growing interest in art in the city and announcing a meeting to be held that evening to discuss plans "to promote art in every desirable way". What happened at the meeting was summarized by the press two days later:

> The meeting held at Mrs. Webster's Art Bazaar.... was numerously attended and it was unanimously resolved that the aims and objects of the association be for the mutual assistance of its members in the prosecution of art studies and by every means to cultivate a taste for and to further the interests of art in the City of Vancouver....Hopes were expressed that an art association here would soon be started, and that this city....might before long boast an art gallery....

The two leading figures in these developments were Captain and Mrs. H.A. Mellon. Captain Mellon was an industrialist in the city and both he and his wife gave active support and leadership to this organization and its successor for many years (although both stoutly refused to become president at any time).

The Vancouver Art Association, which has been described as "the city's first permanent cultural group", must have been formally established within a few days of that first meeting. The press announced a meeting of the organization (not necessarily the first) for early February and within two months, "nearly forty" persons had joined. The first major event sponsored by the new group took place in late June in the form of a loan exhibition. It was opened on June 28 by Rev. H.P. Hobson, the president of the Association, who paid tribute to "Mrs. Webster, Mr. Ferris, Captain Mellon and others" for their efforts in launching the organization. In mid-November, the Association opened its own rooms with "a most successful 'at home'". It was announced at that time that art classes were to be inaugurated under the sponsorship of the Association and according to Wylie Thom's study (see below), Mr. Will

Ferris was the first teacher. The Association also began creating "a collection of objects of art and of historic interest".

.At the beginning of 1890, the new organization was described as being "in a flourishing condition" and plans were being laid for the most ambitious event yet, an art exhibition. This was held during October and included 350 pictures, half of them painted by the pupils and members and the rest loaned by members and friends. The exhibition was open for five days and each evening some dramatic or musical performance was presented for those in attendance.

There was a falling off of activity on the part of the Association for several years from this point on. There was a newspaper notice of an "art reading and social gathering" held in March of the following year, and some indication that these were weekly affairs, and there is indication that painting classes were held in the following summer.

Attempts were made in both 1892 and 1893 to widen the scope of the organization to include historical and scientific (especially archaeological) interests but neither of these produced immediate results.

Mrs. Mellon is generally seen to be the key figure in the formation of the Art, Historical and Scientific Association. It has been her intention ever since 1887 to form a group which would take an interest in the history of British Columbia and the Vancouver area. She turned her hand first to the Art Association, but continued her interest in the other idea and worked for the extension of the Art Association to include the other function as well. At a public meeting held on April 17, 1894, called "for the purpose of considering if an effort should be made to revive the interest formerly taken in Art, History and Science", it was agreed to form the Art, Historical and Scientific Association of Vancouver. Rev. Norman Tucker, Rector of Christ Church, was named the first President, a position he held for the next three years. Mrs. Mellon became Vice President and Mr. H.J. De Forest, Secretary. In the following month, the Vancouver Art Association was formally dissolved and its exhibits and funds turned over to the new

organization. Thus was founded the organization which for many years thereafter was to play such an important part in the cultural and educational life of the city.

The activities of the A.H.S.A. in the succeeding twenty years were impressive in terms of their variety, quality and benefit to present and future citizens of the city. The organization was fortunate in being able to attract strong leadership which was well connected socially and financially in the city. The A.H.C.A. did not ever have a particularly large membership. It reached something over 50 by 1901 but had fallen to approximately 40 the following year. By 1908, it had come up to only 65 and by 1912, to 130. The financial fortunes of the Association were remarkably stable for an organization of its type, another reflection of the fact that the Association was ably led and well connected. Memberships brought in a modest but steady income. The city made a grant to the Association beginning in 1903 of $100 per year. This amount remained the same until 1905, when the museum was opened in the Carnegie Library and the city began to pay a salary to the curator. In 1907 the city's grant was $850 and by 1912 this had risen to $2,500. Other funds were raised by means of entertainments, excursions, balls and voluntary contributions.

The two activities to which the A.H.S.A. most consistently gave its attention were lectures for the general public and the development of what later became the Vancouver city museum.

A. Lectures

There were three main types of lecture activity. A general lecture series for the public, usually free of charge, was given almost every year, but varied widely in number. Five were given in 1895, the first full year of operation, and this represented the average for the next several years, after which it increased slightly. The subject matter was extremely varied, ranging over the many fields of interest encompassed by the scope of the organization. The lectures appear to have been on serious subjects and tended to be scholarly rather than "popular" in character. The lecturers included the outstanding authorities in the area, with occasional

visiting speakers. It would appear that the lectures were of a uniformly high standard. The full text or long excerpts were sometimes subsequently printed by the local newspapers. On several occasions, what might be described as courses of lectures on the same or related topics were offered. Topics included English literature, geology, mining, religions and the history of the province.

In a press report on a meeting of the board of directors of the Association which was published in late January 1912, it was announced that plans were being made to provide some lectures each year for members only, in addition to the regular series for the general public. By that time there were over 100 members in the organization and it was decided it would encourage other people to join, and be a useful service to the members to arrange such a series. There were six such lectures arranged the first year and three in each of the next two years. The lectures offered in this way did not seem to differ in any noticeable way from the other series.

B. Vancouver Museum

It has already been pointed out that the predecessor of the A.H.S.A., the Art Association, had begun a collection of items of artistic and historic interest. Whatever materials that organization collected were turned over to the A.H.S.A. in the spring of 1894. According to the Journal of the A.H.S.A., once the organization was founded, "energetic steps were taken to develop the small art collection into the nucleus of a museum".[16] A public exhibition was organized in November of 1894 which contained pictures and curios and the growth of the collection was steady from that point on. At the first annual meeting in January of 1895, the president, Mr. Tucker, reported that the Association had begun to collect treasurers of art and remains of Indian life and stamps and specimens of various kinds. The Association moved into new rooms in February of 1896 and the city directory referred to its quarters as "museum and lecture rooms".

During 1898, significant new steps were taken. Representations were made to the City Council pointing out that the museum

collection was an important asset to the city and asking for financial support for that aspect of the Association's work. These representations were successful and the city made a grant of $100 in that year. This was the first of what were to be a continuing series of modest grants from the city and they continued at the same level until 1904. The year 1898 was also (presumably a result of the grant) the first occasion on which purchases were made for the collection.

In the fall of 1899, having been successful in securing a grant, the management committee of the Association decided to approach the City Council again, this time asking for space in the public library which could be used to house the museum. These representations did not produce the desired results at the time, but they foreshadowed what was to come about a few years later. Thereafter, increasingly frequent notices appeared in the papers concerning donations of significant items to the museum collection.

At the annual meeting early in 1901, it was made clear that the Association still wished to transfer the museum and the Association's property to the city. Negotiations to that end apparently progressed slowly for the next two years. The A.H.S.A. decided in 1903 to make further formal representations to the city and this time they were successful. As a result of these discussions, the city entered into an agreement with the Association which established the basis on which a public museum could be established. The city would supply suitable premises for the museum - which turned out to be on the third floor of the new library building at Main and Hastings - and once the collection was moved in, it would become the Vancouver Public Museum to be maintained by the city and managed by the Association. Under the arrangement, the mayor and two aldermen were to become members of the board of directors of the Association.

After a further delay of some two years, the Vancouver Museum was formally opened in the Carnegie Library building on April 19, 1905, "amidst great festivities". A lengthy newspaper account of the occasion described the displays as "a handsome and extensive

collection of Indian relics, curiosities, valuable stones and other specimens".[17] The museum grew and prospered in its new location. Attendance increased tremendously in succeeding years. The large numbers of people who visited the museum and the growth in the collection itself caused acute space shortages by the beginning of the World War.

It was a creditable achievement on the part of the A.H.S.A. to build up a museum collection under very difficult circumstances and to keep it going until the time when the City Council could be convinced that it was a valuable civic asset which should be housed and supervised as a public institution. Even after that decision was made, the Association continued its connection with the institution and continued to give valuable leadership to its improvement and expansion.

C. Other Activities

Reference has already been made to the fact that in the first year of its existence, the A.H.S.A. organized a large public exhibition of art work and curios. It was held in November of 1894 and was officially opened by the Governor General, the Earl of Aberdeen, who was visiting the area at the time. No further shows of this kind were sponsored by the Association.

The Association staged a number of fund-raising ventures over the years. Musical evenings were held quite frequently from 1894 to 1899. Literary evenings held under the title of "conversaziones" were held from time to time in 1896, 1899 and 1902. Three outstandingly successful balls were organized in 1906 and 1907.

By virtue of a combination of hard work, good management and attracting able leadership with useful political and social connections, the A.H.S.A. was able to accomplish a great deal. Their lecture activities were of an outstanding number, regularity and quality and their efforts in connection with the museum left Vancouver in their debt.

10. Groups Related to the Arts

A. Instrumental Music

After one false start in 1886, the Vancouver Philharmonic Society was formed in 1889, performing both instrumental and vocal music. The Philharmonic and Orchestral Society was formed in 1893 and continued to perform over the next decade. The Vancouver Choral and Orchestral Society was launched in 1904, followed in 1911 by the Vancouver Musical Society. It was not until 1911 that a strictly instrumental group on a large scale was formed, its first concert - and the first orchestral concert given in the city - being offered in March of the following year. A chamber music group gave a series of concerts during 1911 and a Scottish Philharmonic Society was active beginning in 1912. Mention should also be made of the City Band, a brass band formed in 1886 which remained active through until 1914, took part in many ceremonial occasions in the city, and during the summer season regularly gave outdoor concerts. At least two other brass bands were active for shorter periods during these years.

Mention should be made as well of the Vancouver Women's Musical Club. Like its counterpart in Victoria, this organization was formed not for the purpose of performing music, but to provide opportunities to listen to it. It is not known exactly when the group was organized, but it was certainly in operation as early as the fall of 1906. In that year it was arranging bi-monthly morning concerts of instrumental and/or vocal music for its members. Such activities were held each year thereafter. This organization was significant not only because it made it possible for its members to hear performances of good music on a regular basis but also because it provided an opportunity for a large number of local artists to perform.

B. Vocal Music

Reference has already been made above to several groups which performed both instrumental and vocal music. In addition to this, there were a large number of organizations, all of them apparently

short-lived, which concentrated on vocal music only. The earliest of these was the Vancouver Glee and Madrigal Society, which was organized in 1887. The Vancouver Operatic and Dramatic Society, which was active from 1893 to 1897, lasted longer than any other group in the period. Isolated references have been found to a variety of other groups, especially in the period after 1910, but little is known about their work.

C. Drama

Several references to drama groups have been found, but only the Garrick Dramatic Club, which was organized in 1888 and was active until at least 1913, continued in existence for any appreciable length of time.

D. Painting, Drawing and Related Arts

Organized activity in these fields was relatively late in developing. As described above, the Vancouver Art Association was founded in 1889, to be replaced in 1894 by the Art, Historical and Scientific Association. Both organizations organized exhibitions which included the work of local artists and the former had an active program of painting classes. The Vancouver Arts and Crafts Association was formed in 1900. It included representation from several different areas of artistic endeavor, held public exhibitions and conducted lectures and classes during 1900 and the following year, but became less active after that, dissolving when several key leaders left the city. In 1904, a longer-lived organization, The Studio Club, was organized. It remained active until 1913, organizing art classes, maintaining its own studio space, and holding annual exhibitions of members' and other art work. It has been criticised as having degenerated into a social club, but it did make a contribution over the years by stimulating participation and interest in the arts.[18]

The Studio Club was intended for the amateur. In 1908, several of the professional artists in the city came together to form the British Columbia Society of Fine Arts and the main focus of the Vancouver art world shifted to this new and active

organization. Its annual exhibitions, which continued until the beginning of the War, became the art event of the year, received a great deal of attention from the press and were the subject of serious art criticism.

Towards the end of the period an organization devoted to handicrafts was formed in the city. The Vancouver Branch of the Canadian Handicrafts Guild was established in September of 1912 for "the preservation and promotion of handicrafts....and actively working for the benefit of their fellow men and women". The organization attracted a number of prominent citizens to its board. In the summer of 1913, it opened a shop in downtown Vancouver (with the help of a $500 grant from the provincial government) where craft work from across Canada was sold, the proceeds going to support handicapped and native Indian artists, as well as other worthy purposes. The Guild also sponsored public lectures and other fund raising events.

E. Instruction in the Arts

In addition to the organizations already mentioned, there were many and varied opportunities in all of the foregoing fields, as well as in other arts and crafts and the dance, for the interested individual to receive instruction. In the very early years, many individuals advertised their services as teachers. This was especially common in instrumental music, dance and painting and drawing. In subsequent years, commercial companies entered the field. These included the Academy of Music (1889), the Vancouver Conservatory of Music (1896), The Columbia Commercial College (1896), The Vancouver Art School (1905), several dancing academies and a number of others.

11. Public Educational Authorities

The participation of public educational authorities in the provision of adult education opportunities for the city of Vancouver began in a small way in the year 1900 and culminated in the fall of 1909 with the permanent establishment of a night school program.

As early as 1900, the annual report on the public schools of the province indicated that there were both part-time and full-time students taking first and second year university level work at Vancouver College. Vancouver College was the name adopted by Vancouver High School under an agreement by which it had become affiliated with McGill University in 1899. In December of the following year, the same institution sponsored a public lecture given in O'Brien's Hall by Mr. Oliver Bainbridge. This was perhaps the first extension or adult education activity offered by any public school authority in the city, apart from making the regular curriculum available to part-time students.

In 1906, McGill University College was created in Vancouver and it took over the university-level work which had previously been provided by the local school board through Vancouver College. In the spring of 1907, this institution offered its first extension activity in the form of a lecture by the Superintendent of Education for the Province, Mr. Alexander Robinson, on "Captain Vancouver - His Explorations". The Literary Society of the College, which normally involved only students in its activities, arranged this public lecture. Judging from the account of the proceedings in the press, this was seen to be a significant step by the institution. There was considerable formality involved in the meeting and in the introduction of the speaker and the meeting hall was filled to the doors.

Night school classes under the auspices of the School Board began in early 1907. An announcement in the newspaper on January 12 under the heading "Night Classes", read as follows:

> A meeting of persons interested in the formation of night classes for instruction in Mathematics, Engineering Mechanics, Descriptive Geometry, Geometrical and Mechanical Drawing and other subjects will be held in the Principal's room, Central School, on Monday, January 14th at 8:00 p.m.[19]

Arising out of the discussions at that meeting, in which the experience of the city of London (England) with such classes was referred to frequently, a committee was appointed to carry the matter forward.

Among others, it included Mr. John Kyle, who was to play a particularly significant role in the future of this work.

Events moved rapidly after that. The committee met the next day to discuss plans for the program. They were of the opinion that it was largely elementary subjects which were needed and decided to place newspaper advertisements in order to test the demand. The model provided by the system in the United Kingdom was apparently very much in their minds. It was decided that each course would consist of fourteen lessons and that the courses would be handled in such a way that the student would be in a satisfactory position to write examinations in the various subjects which were set by the British authorities. There was, however, to be no formal affiliation with a British agency.

On January 18 and for the next four days the News Advertiser carried an advertisement headed "Night Classes" which listed a number of subjects in which the Board was prepared to offer instruction during the term January to June. Students of both sexes were encouraged to indicate their interest in the program by contacting the Secretary of the School Board. It was stated that the fees per course had not been set but would not be more than $3.50. The subjects listed included six courses on different applications of drawing (ex. Mechanical Drawing), elementary mathematics and chemistry, experimental physics, building construction, "Steam-first stage", theoretical and applied mechanics, music, domestic science and manual training. On the first day the advertisement was run, the newspaper carried two news items in its columns drawing readers' attention to the new program.

There was apparently a reasonably promising response to the advertisements, because the following notice was carried by the News Advertiser on January 29 and 30:

> Meetings for the formation of classes will be held as follows:
> January 30 at 8:00
> Mathematics - Principal's room, Central School
> Experimental Physics, Mechanics and Steam - City Superintendent's Office
> Drawing - School Board Office

> January 31 at 8:00
> Building Construction - Principal's Room, Central School
> Manual Training, Woodwork and Domestic Science - School Board Office
> Music - City Superintendent's Office
> Course in each subject will include 14 lessons. Fee for the first stage in any subject $2.50. Fee for advanced stage in any subject $5.00.
> All desiring to join the classes must be present on the above dates.

In a press report of a school board meeting held in early March, the Superintendent, Mr. Argue "reported that the night classes in the high school in Experimental Science and Geometrical and Freehand Drawing were well attended considering their recent establishment, and their success for the future was assured".[20] These then were the first night classes offered by the Vancouver School authorities (starting approximately six months later than the ones in Victoria, the provincial capital).

In the fall of 1907, the school board night classes were not offered, but McGill University College ran courses in several subjects. A first meeting to organize the classes was held in early October, when it was made clear that this work could be taken for credit towards college certificates. No details are available concerning enrollments in the various courses offered, but a press report of a school board meeting early in 1908 contained the following statement:

> In October night classes were opened in the University College. Instruction in English Literature, Latin, French, Mathematics, Mechanical Drawing was offered; and while these classes have not been as well attended as they should be, a fair beginning has been made.[21]

With this development, the province had its first example of university level extension work. As far as is known, the College did not repeat this experiment.

The school board did not offer night classes in the fall of 1908, but it continued its interest in the matter and took steps towards the eventual establishment of a continuing program. The board decided at a meeting in October that at the provincial

convention of school trustees which was to be held in Revelstoke a few weeks later, it would support a resolution in favor of offering such classes. Two weeks later, the Vancouver City Council passed a resolution unanimously which endorsed these proposals. At the subsequent Trustees' convention, the following resolutions were subsequently passed unanimously:

> That the Board of School Trustees be given power to conduct night classes for all pupils who are not included under the clauses of the Public Schools Act.
>
> That government assistance by way of a grant be given Boards conducting night classes.[22]

Although no action had been taken by the government in this matter by the fall of 1909, the Vancouver School Board decided to go ahead that year with the inauguration of an ambitious night school program.

In early October of 1909, a story about the opening of night schools appeared in the press under the following headline, "Night Schools Begin Shortly: New Departure Under Auspices of Vancouver School Board Should Prove Very Popular". The story indicated that "final arrangements" had been made to inaugurate the program. A list of courses to be offered was included, along with details about the four schools to be used for classes. The instructional staff was described as "made up of practical men" and those who were expected to be interested in the opportunity were referred to as "young men and women". On the same day, the newspaper carried an advertisement placed by the school board which was headed "Young Men and Women! Prepare for Promotion!" The vocational emphasis of the program could not have been made more clear. The ad listed the courses being offered and indicated that the fee would be $3.00 per course.[23]

The response was most gratifying. In that first year of operation, 601 persons took courses, some more than one, making a total of 966 registrations.[24] Ten different courses were given, held in six different centers. The enrollments by subject were as follows:

Arithmetic	276	Drawing	36
English	288	Modelling	9
Bookkeeping	209	Quantity Surveying	15
Engineering	39	Building Construction	22
Mathematics	21	Architecture	51

The four main schools used and the numbers attending classes at each were: Central (159), Fairview (108), Mount Pleasant (168) and Seymour (166).

The unexpectedly heavy response to the new program caused problems. The size of the enrollments and the consequent demands on the school board in terms of providing instructors, space and supplies was more than had been anticipated. The response of the board to this situation was summed up in a press report on the board meeting held in mid-October, which was headed, "Popularity of Night Schools So Great that Board Will Have to Apply for Provincial Government Aid". The article indicated that the board anticipated a deficit of $3,000 on the operation, one-third of which it could find out of its own budgeted funds and the balance of which it would seek from the province, via the Vancouver City Council.

It is not known what the outcome of these financial negotiations was, but with the amendments to the Public Schools Act which were introduced by the government and passed by the legislature early in 1910, the financial burden in connection with night classes was reduced, if not removed entirely, by virtue of the grants which the province thereafter provided towards the remuneration paid to the teachers of approved night school courses.

In subsequent years, the night schools in Vancouver operated at a consistently high level. In 1910-11, the second year of operations, enrollments increased to 1,628. One innovation that year, which was to be repeated for several years thereafter, was the holding of a large rally to mark the opening of the fall term, at which the mayor presented prizes to the top students in the previous year. Some non-vocational subjects such as citizenship and music were added to the list of courses. When the classes were re-opened in January, courses in shipbuilding mechanics, First Aid to the Injured, embroidery and millinery were added. In February, another

innovation was made, when the music classes themselves sponsored a public lecture and performed musical selections.

In the year 1911-1912, enrollments increased once more, to 2,011. New subjects included French, German, navigation, physical culture, wood carving, copper work and Cooking for Men. The music program was further expanded with beginners' work being conducted on Monday evening, the choral society on Tuesday and an orchestra on Thursdays. A debating club was started among the students. Further embellishments appeared in March of 1912, when the book-keeping and shorthand classes held "a second social evening for this season", including music, recitations and refreshments. The program that year was held in eleven different centers and involved forty-nine instructors.

In the year 1912-1913, enrollments were down to 1,420, but in the following year, the last before the War, they were up again to 1,749. Some interesting detail on an aspect of the program was provided in the fall of 1914 by an article by G.A. Laing, the Director of Technical Education for the Board, which was submitted at the editor's invitation to The B.C. Federationist, the labor newspaper, and printed in their first issue in October. It described the program in general and stressed the courses in elementary subjects, the building trades and engineering. In reference to the building trades courses, the author stressed that the classes were suitable not just for apprentices, but also for "men who already have a practical acquaintance with some branch of the trade". The two elementary courses mentioned were workshop arithmetic and workshop drawing. There was a three year course in carpentry and technical courses in sheetmetal work, building construction, quantity surveying, architectural drawing and architecture. In the engineering program, there were courses in preliminary mathematics; two years in both mechanical and steam engineering; two years in machine construction and drawing; and a two year course in electrical engineering. The article mentioned courses in some other fields such as the arts, commercial subjects and domestic science and put heavy stress on the practical nature of all the programs.[25]

McGill University College did not offer extension credit courses again after its initial effort, but in the academic year 1908-1909 and again the following year, it sponsored brief series of lectures for the public. The only two lecturers whose names are known were John G. Davidson and Lemuel Robertson, both of the College staff and both of whom were to play significant roles in university extension work in later years as faculty members of The University of British Columbia.

Reference should be made to the role of the South Vancouver School Board and its brief participation in the field of adult education. In January of 1910, the press carried an account of the first meeting of the Board in the new year at which Mr. Spencer Robinson was re-elected as chairman. In his remarks to the meeting, the chairman said:

> The establishment of night schools in our Municipality, where boys and girls could receive special training for some trade or business, would be practical help (sic). Your Board are unanimously agreed on this point, and it only remains for the Government to make the necessary grant for the carrying on of this valuable branch of educational work.[26]

At the time, of course, the Vancouver School Board already had its program under way. Within a few weeks, the Public Schools Act was amended so as to provide support for this work.

True to its word, the South Vancouver Board launched a night class program the following fall. It was prepared to offer instruction in English, commercial arithmetic, bookkeeping, shorthand, building construction, dressmaking and sewing. The arrangement was that if 20 or more students enrolled in any class, no fees would be charged. It is not known how many courses actually were held, nor what the enrollments were. Figures for the South Vancouver district did not appear in the Department of Education statistics for the year. By early November, teachers were appointed and classes confirmed, Mr. Kyle of the Vancouver district, having given useful advice in this connection. Some of the classes were apparently quite small at the outset, but continued to grow during November. A shorthand class had over 30 students. On the other hand, English

and arithmetic classes held at Cedar Cottage were so small they had to be combined. A dressmaking class at Central Park was so large it had to be split into two. In the second term, the dressmaking and building construction classes were reported as being well filled, but pupils were "wanted for most of the other classes".[27] In subsequent years, the South Vancouver Board apparently left it to the larger program run by the Vancouver district to serve the needs of students in both areas.

12. Private Tutoring and Other Academic Evening Instruction

The public institutions did not provide the only instruction in academic subjects. A variety of other sources were available including private tutors, commercial schools which offered some academic subjects and private educational institutions.

There were a number of private tutors who advertised in the newspaper from time to time. The first noted was a Professor Heinrich Pottmeyer, who advertised instruction in French and German, each three nights per week, in the fall of 1888. By September of 1911, six private tutors were advertising at the same time.

There were also a number of private institutions which specialized in academic tutoring. These included a School of Elocution run by a Professor Wenyon (1896); the Vancouver Conservatory of Music which for a time offered languages as well (1896); the Columbia Commercial College, which at one point had an academic department (1897); the Vancouver Night School, which offered predominently academic subjects and to a lesser extent commercial ones (1903-1905); the Sprott-Shaw Business Institute, which offered foreign languages for a time (1906); and the Vancouver School of Expression (1911).

Something of the general demand for instruction was revealed by an article which appeared in the Vancouver Province in the fall of 1909. The paper was running a series of articles on "The Symptoms of an Educational Crisis" in support of the need for a university in the province. One of the articles dealt in part with the extent of private tutoring which was going on:

> There is a steady demand for mathematical, linguistic and even for classical private tuition. Vancouver has had the advantage of several good business colleges and does a surprising amount of business with American correspondence colleges....One experienced teacher reports that he often spends forty to fifty hours per week tutoring single pupils mostly attending or preparing for Canadian university courses.

It added that some tutors in Vancouver, who only a short time ago had a precarious income, "are now besieged".[28]

In addition, there were several private academic institutions which offered regular instruction to young people during the day on a full-time basis and also gave courses at night. The first of these was Weltham College, which was active in this field from 1891 to 1893. These included lecture series on astronomy and electricity and a series of four chamber music concerts. The college closed in 1893.

Buckland College also conducted work of this kind. The advertisements for the college which ran in the fall of 1896 indicated that it offered preparation for matriculation, law and public school teachers' examinations and that it offered both day and evening classes. Evening classes in French were given in 1898.

In 1907, Columbian College, the Methodist Institution in New Westminster, announced a series of what it called "University Extension Lectures" to be held in Vancouver. The Principal, Reverend Mr. Sipprell, was to lead off with a lecture on "The Theory of Sight-Sensations and Our Ideas of Space". There were to be four lectures in the series, given in fortnightly intervals and free to the public. The series had the "double object of interesting the public in University work, and of giving them the results of the study of specialists in departments of high interest".[29]

13. Evening Instruction in Commercial and Technical Subjects -- Private Schools

This was a large field of activity in Vancouver during these years when the city was developing so rapidly and the business and

industry of the area, especially in the boom periods, were increasingly large users of trained man and woman power. It is difficult, if not impossible to present an orderly and fully accurate account of the various business schools in the area because with notable exceptions there was a procession of short-lived operations, with personnel shifting from one to the other. Schools came and went, some going bankrupt and some being taken over by other institutions. One of the most successful, for instance, the Sprott-Shaw School, absorbed six competing schools at various times.

The earliest entries into the field were individuals offering instruction in commercial subjects. These appeared as early as 1888, but by the middle of the next decade, incorporated companies began to take over this field of activity. The first of these was Pacific Shorthand and Business College, which appeared in 1894 and like many of its successors, offered instruction in business subjects both day and evening. Some of the most prominent firms which appeared in the field in subsequent years included Columbia Commercial College (founded 1895), H.B.A. Vogel Commercial College (1898), Pitman's Business College Ltd. (1898), Vancouver Business College (1903), 20th Century Shorthand (1904), Vancouver Night School (1904), Sprott-Shaw Business University (later College - 1904), and Central Business College (1910). Some of these organizations taught academic and technical subjects from time to time as well.

14. Other Technical and Vocational Education

J.K. Foster, in his study of the development of vocational education in the province, has pointed out that the general background factor to the development of training of this kind was the decline in the relative significance of the "frontier" occupations, especially between 1870 and 1890, and the increasing need for a more highly skilled and knowledgeable work force.[30]

A. Public Policy and Organized Labor

Some of the labor unions, especially the craft unions, took an active interest in the development of both in-school and

out-of-school technical training. Some of the unions were actively involved in educational programs for their members and co-operated closely with the local school boards when they entered the field, supporting their night classes in technical and vocational subjects. Some also sought a role in determining the nature of the programs. When the sheetmetal workers approached the Vancouver Board in 1913 asking it to take over the administration of their educational classes, the union suggested that an advisory committee to the program be established on which they would have representation. This was arranged. The following year, G.A. Laing, director of night schools for Vancouver (John Kyle having joined the staff of the Department of Education that year) invited the Trades and Labor Council to appoint delegates from the building trades unions to sit on a newly-formed technical advisory committee. The committee was to assist the school board on questions of technical education.

B. Organized Labor's Participation in Educational Programs

The craft unions were the labor groups which were most actively involved in the education of their members and which also secured some degree of control over the apprenticeship system as it related to their fields. The Vancouver Typographical Union was founded in 1888. In the early 1890's members of this group were faced with a problem when linotype machines were introduced by the two local newspapers, the World and the News Advertiser. In June of 1893, in order to get around this problem, the union negotiated with the two newspapers an arrangement whereby journeymen could go on a lower salary scale (machine scale) for brief periods while they learned to operate the linotype machines. The local typographical union had at its disposal the well developed apprenticeship system worked out by its parent international union. It established clear guidelines concerning the educational requirements of those entering the field; established policies on the range and duration of the duties to be performed by apprentices; and kept careful records of the progress and experiences of the apprentices. In 1908, the International Union inaugurated a correspondence course for apprentices, providing a systematic review of the main subject matter to

be mastered by apprentices. These were adopted in Vancouver and in 1910 and 1911, the Vancouver local purchased technical books to be used by apprentices who were following the correspondence course. In the following year, the union organized a series of lectures by journeymen union members for the apprentices. This was subsequently expanded in association with the school board night school program. Also in 1912, the local entered into an agreement with the employers to the effect that when any person was accepted by the employer for a trial period of employment, the apprentice candidate had to write a union examination in spelling, grammar and English usage. It was also arranged in that year that there were opportunities for an exchange of apprentices between shops so the workman could get a wider range of experience than would be available to him in a single establishment. Finally, in 1914, the union created a club for apprentices, the "Caxton Apprenticeship Club of Vancouver", where certain educational and other activities could be carried out.

The sheetmetal workers also were active in education. In 1909, the union organized a class on the different aspects of the trade for apprentices and ran it successfully. They then approached the Vancouver School Board and asked them to organize such classes in the future on behalf of their members. Regular sheetmetal classes were begun in 1913.

C. Training in Industry

Although increasingly during this period, government regulations concerning the qualifications of certain categories of workers made it necessary to provide training of some kind, it was still true that before the first World War, "management became involved in training only under exceptional circumstances".[31]

Apart from the examples already mentioned, the earliest instance of training programs in industry was that of the British Columbia Telephone Company. They began the training of telephone operators in their Vancouver exchange in 1890 and continued that practice until 1907, when the training was transferred to the Seymour exchange at 555 Seymour, where it was retained until 1912. In 1913,

a training school for operators was established in a new building adjoining the Fairmont office at the corner of 10th Avenue and Prince Edward Street. Miss Mary Dickson was the head of the school and 36 pupils advanced from one class to another. They attended classes for eight hours per day for three weeks and in addition to their technical training, all student operators were given a course in voice culture. On the other hand, all construction, installation, maintenance and repair personnel were trained right on the job.

The British Columbia Electric Company also was active in training for its personnel. In January of 1906, the city Medical Health Officer gave a series of lectures on first aid to employees of the company. This was apparently part of a larger program. In 1906, the company introduced a three year course of training of employees working as electrical technicians. The course was operated by "the B.C. Electric Technical School" and the costs were met partly by the company and partly by student fees. The company provided instructional space and equipment. The program, which was continued until 1920, covered advanced theoretical concepts and principles in the field of electricity and electrical engineering. This program was successful from the company's point of view and led to the establishment in 1912 of a company commercial training course as well.

In 1909, the city passed a by-law which made the training of conductors and drivers on trams compulsory. There had been an informal system of oral exams begun by the company the previous year, but this was replaced beginning in February of 1909 with a regular course of lectures, followed by examinations. This instruction program eventually became an integral part of the company routine with its own specially equipped lecture room.

By 1910, an additional educational activity was in operation within the company in the form of the B.C. Electric Co. section of the National Electric Light Association. Papers on technical subjects were presented to regular meetings of this group, usually by group members but occasionally by visiting speakers.

By 1911, the Canadian Pacific Railway was heavily involved in first aid instruction. In February of that year it was reported in the press that 11 "mechanical employees" had passed examinations after taking the St. John's Ambulance course. In October plans were announced for an ambitious national competition in proficiency in first aid, with competititions in each area, teams of five men representing each division; winners declared for Eastern and Western Canada and eventually a national competition, with cups and medals awarded at the various levels. The company was described as "the foremost railway in North America in teaching its employees first aid".[32]

D. Mining

Considerable educational activity in this field was carried on in the 1890's, a decade of rapid expansion in the mining industry of the province. Early in 1896, the provincial Department of Mines offered in Vancouver a series of six lectures on different aspects of mining. This series, which was presented in Victoria and New Westminster as well, was given by the leading experts in the province and was well attended. The Art, Historical and Scientific Association sponsored a series of lectures on mining given by Mr. G.F. Monckton in 1895. There were six lectures in the series, followed by a seventh on the geology of Burrard Inlet. At least some of the lectures included chemistry tests of minerals and other demonstrations. Mr. Monckton and a partner opened the Vancouver School of Mines early in 1896. The program was devoted to the training of assayers and mining engineers. Some weeks later it was announced that the proprietors had found it necessary to enlarge the school and that another room had been taken in. No further mention has been located of the Vancouver School of Mines, but in the fall of 1896, the British Columbia School of Mines was advertising for students, perhaps a successor to the other organization. Early in 1898, a School of Placer Mining was offering instruction. The press described the program as "practical classes" and stated that men who were intending to go to the Klondike were taking them. In the fall of that year, an organization

called the Institute Columbia was advertising, offering classes in geology, mineralogy and chemistry both day and evening.

In 1912, the Vancouver Mining Club, the forerunner of the Vancouver Chamber of Mines, was formed. By October of that year, the organization had collected a display of interesting mineral samples which was made available for viewing by the general public. Late that year or early in 1913, the name was changed to the Chamber of Mines and in late January a lecture was organized for the members on "Modern Surface Equipment of Coal Mines". In the fall, the News Advertiser ran a long illustrated article on the Chamber which indicated that it maintained a reading room, a "bureau of mining information" and "the best museum of provincial minerals extant".[33] Further lectures for the members were offered quite frequently in the following months, most of them on mining topics.

E. Marine Schools

In the fall of 1907, a Marine School organized by the federal government was started in Vancouver and became the most successful of its kind in all Canada. In the next seven years, a total of 198 lectures was given as part of this program, with average attendance in Vancouver ranging from a high of 29 for the 1908-1909 series to 12 in 1912-1913. Instruction in this vocational area was also offered through the local Seamen's Institute.

15. Business Clubs and Trade Groups

Brief comment should be made on several other educational programs conducted by business or trade groups. The Vancouver Board of Trade organized public lectures from time to time on subjects related to the economy of the province. Two examples which might be mentioned are an address on "Trade Between Great Britain and the Colonies" given by a British Member of Parliament in September of 1891 and a lecture on forest conservation presented in the spring of 1910 by the federal Inspector of Forest Reserves.

In 1894, the local sugar refinery established a Reading and Social Club for interested employees. In 1902, there was mention

once again of the "Sugar Refinery Literary Club", which may or may not have been the same organization. In 1912, the B.C. Electric Railway Co. opened new club rooms for its office staff and announced that the organization which was to have the use of the premises was intended to provide opportunities for "social intercourse and the moral and intellectual edification of its members". Early in 1914, reports indicated that there was a particularly active photography section of the club, which arranged lectures for the membership.

At least three organizations devoted to the study of business were formed in the latter years of the period. In the fall of 1910, the press reported that a Businessmen's Club had been formed "to take up the study of the science of business building" (sic). What sounds like a similar group, the Business Science Club of Vancouver, was founded early in 1911. It was apparently a branch of an organization which had originated in Chicago and provided an opportunity for the members to gain greater understanding and knowledge of business practices. In the fall of the following year, mention was made in the press of the Pickwick Club of Vancouver. Its objects were described as "the improving of the knowledge of its members in subjects relating to finance, law, business and politics" and its membership was limited to twenty. Nothing further is known about the activities of these groups.

Brief reference might also be made of the local branch of the Life Insurance Salesmen and of the Canadian Bankers Association both of which arranged lectures for their members on matters related to their work. The same can be said of the Provincial Funeral Directors and Embalmers Association, which held its first annual convention in Vancouver in the fall of 1912, the program for which contained a number of items aimed at in-service development for persons in that business.

16. In-Service Development of Teachers

A. School Teachers

During this period, the teachers in the Vancouver area were organized at three levels, each of which conducted professional

in-service development activities. The Provincial Teachers' Institutes began in 1874 and met most years thereafter. Considerable numbers of Vancouver and district teachers took part in these meetings. The regional organization in which the Vancouver teachers played a part was the Mainland Teachers' Institute. It was formed in 1885 and met regularly thereafter, the name being changed in 1905 to the Coast Teachers' Institute. The regional body met for two days during the Christmas school break, normally in the early days of January. The meetings alternated between Vancouver and New Westminster. They appear to have been devoted mainly to professional in-service development activities.

The Vancouver teachers organized at the local level early in 1889, forming the Vancouver Teachers' Institute "for the purpose of mutual improvement and to further the cause of education in the province". Judging from the accounts of their first few monthly meetings, the sessions were given over almost exclusively to the discussion of professional topics, usually on the basis of the delivery of a paper on some aspect of teaching and then a discussion of the matters raised in it. Such topics as "Canadian History", "School Discipline", "Teaching Composition" and "Teaching Literature" were typical. There is little information available about the affairs of the local Institute over the years but it is known that by the century it had almost 200 members.

B. Sunday School Teachers

There developed during this period a very active in-service training program for those involved in Sunday School activities in several Protestant denominations - at both the local and provincial levels. As in the case of the school teachers, attention was given in these programs to both content and methodology.

C. Kindergarten Teachers

For a brief period in the late 1890's, there was an active Kindergarten Club in Vancouver. At a meeting held in late March, 1898, the club was officially formed, its stated aim being "to promote the study of kindergarten methods of teaching". The group met on a monthly basis throughout that year and became so large and

active by the fall of 1899 that it was divided into two branches. However, by the spring of 1900, the organization seems to have disappeared.

17. In-Service Development in Other Professions

It is not known when the local Nurses' Association was formed, but a press account in the fall of 1906 indicates that it was holding meetings on a monthly basis at that time and that the programs consisted of lectures on topics of professional interest, mentions lectures on Bacteriology and suggests that the group had recently been formed. There was further indication of such work in the fall of 1913. Early in 1914, the press indicated that the Public Health Nurses' Association was operating in-service development activities. In announcing a lecture by the school dentist to a meeting soon to be held, the report stated:

> This is one of a course of lectures planned by the Public Health Nurses' Association, and all nurses and others interested in public health matters are cordially invited.

No information has been located about educational activities for the legal profession, but on several occasions the press mentioned lectures which were arranged by and for the Law Students' Society. The earliest of these which was noted was given on November 10, 1908, by Mr. C.M. Woodworth on law relating to marriage and divorce. Other topics about the law included "The Mechanics' Lien Act" and "Summons Procedure". Other, non-technical subjects such as "The Hudson's Bay Route" were covered on occasion. "Mock Chambers" and mock parliaments were also held.

Several branches of the engineering profession organized educational activities. The earliest specific reference noted was to a meeting of the local branch of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers in December of 1910 at which papers on "Testing of Concrete Pipes" and "Railway Organization and Cost Keeping" were delivered and discussed. Other reports indicate that this group was actively engaged in this kind of activity for the next few years.

For instance, the announcement of their first meeting in the fall of 1913 contained a list of topics to be covered at meetings during the coming year, including such as Dredging, Town Planning and Dock Construction. In December of 1913, a two-day meeting of the British Columbia Section (other notices had been for the Vancouver branch) was announced at which a number of technical papers were delivered. Approximately 150 engineers attended that meeting. Only one meeting was noted of the Corporation of B.C. Land Surveyors, it being held in January of 1912. A local section of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers was formed in the fall of 1911, but nothing is known of its activities. Finally, a British Columbia Association of Gas Engineers was formed in early 1914. It had a total of 84 members, 60 of whom belonged to the Vancouver local.

The architects were active at two levels. The provincial body held meetings from time to time, hearing lectures on such topics as "Some Phases of Fireproof Construction" and "Specifications". The Vancouver Chapter also arranged lectures for its members. Two topics which were noted were "The Modern Landscape Architect" and "City Planning and What it Involves".

The Chartered Accountants Student Society of British Columbia was active in educational work by the fall of 1912. A press announcement at that time indicated that the group had recently heard a lecture on "Business Investigations" and that a series of lectures had been arranged for the ensuing year.

Press reports indicated that the Home Economics Association was involved in such work by the fall of 1913. The teaching of home economics, ceramics, and the evolution of the home were among the topics discussed at the regular monthly meetings which were held during that year at least.

18. National and Ethnic Organizations

A. The Canadian Clubs

The Men's Canadian Club, designed "to foster the spirit of national patriotism" and other related values, was formed in

Vancouver in the latter part of 1906. The club seems to have been a success from the beginning and attracted as speakers outstanding persons from all parts of Canada and abroad. A year after its formation, the president reported that the club had outgrown almost every available hall in the city. The club's main activity was to arrange lectures for its members. The first indication that the Women's Canadian Club of the city had been formed appeared in November of 1909 and it is assumed that it, like its counterpart in Victoria, was formed earlier that year. The women's group conducted a program along similar lines to that of the men's club. In addition, however, it undertook in the program year 1912-1913 a special series of lectures on British Columbia history, which was arranged by the president, Mrs. Jonathan Rogers.

B. Ethnic and Regional Organizations

There was the usual range of ethnic and regional organizations in Vancouver during these years, but for the most part their activities were more social than educational and as such, do not come within the terms of this study. The Sons of England were perhaps as active as any in terms of educational activities for the general public. A lecture on Shakespeare and Dickens held at the First Congregational Church in March of 1907 and one on naval matters ("Through Shot and Shell") held in February of the following year were typical of their events. The Society of Londoners, which was formed in the fall of 1910, also organized an active program of music, literary evenings and discussions to which all were invited.

There were also during this period active organizations devoted to the understanding and propagation of the French language and culture. As early as the spring of 1888, L'Institut Canadien Francais de Vancouver was formed. It established club rooms and maintained a supply of French language newspapers and literature there. Within a month, it was reported that the group was meeting "with great success" and that its membership was already "very large". In the spring of 1904, a local branch of the Alliance Francaise was formed. (It was at first referred to as the "French Alliance" in the local press.) Little is known of their activities,

but by 1907, at least some members were meeting on a weekly basis studying works of French literature.

19. Women's Organizations Related to Education and Public Affairs

A. Council of Women

The leading women's organization in many respects, and certainly the most comprehensive in terms of its membership was the Local Council of Women. Like similar councils elsewhere in the country, the organization was interested in the education of its members (and that of the affiliated organizations) especially to the end that they could undertake informed and effective social action in the interests of improving their communities and the nation, with particular reference to areas which affected the welfare of women and children. As part of this process, considerable educational work was organized for the purpose of informing its own membership, and on occasion, events were organized for the benefit of the general public.

The Vancouver Council was organized in 1894 and was soon conducting a very active program which clearly involved considerable study on the part of committees of many social questions of public concern. Some of the many topics to which they gave study were labor conditions, the situation of East Indian women, housing, recreation, industrial and technical education, laws affecting women and children, public health, child welfare and city beautification, among others. The Council was also active in seeking the franchise for women at both the local level and at senior levels of government.

B. Educational Clubs

The Educational Club of Vancouver which was formed in 1908 intended "to study the problems of politics an society which form the background of educational work; and to develop enthusiasm for ideas in general". Early meetings brought together many of the leading figures in educational circles in the city. A year or so later, a women's section of the organization was formed, the

the earliest meeting of which that has been noted being held in January of 1911. At least one further meeting was noted in the press in February of 1914, but presumably the organization had been meeting in the intervening years as well.

There is a possibility of confusing this group with another, the Women's Educational Club of Columbian College. The College was a Methodist institution located in New Westminster which had been in operation since 1892. By 1913, there was an affiliated Women's Educational Club in both Vancouver and Victoria. The former conducted an active educational program for its members.

Little is known about the activities of the University Women's Club of Vancouver. A press report indicated that it was holding meetings in the spring of 1910. At that time it was indicated that the club had arranged two dramatic readings for interested members of the general public, but no other information is available about their activities.

C. Women's Suffrage Organizations

Beginning in 1912, just after women received the vote at the municipal level, and increasingly as the campaign for women's suffrage at other levels gained momentum, there was organizational activity aimed at expanding the franchise or educating women for informed use of the vote. These organizations included the "Women's Forum", the B.C. Equal Franchise Association and the Pioneer Political Equality League.

20. Sailors' Organizations

It is clear that a certain amount of educational work for sailors was carried on during this period by organizations set up for the welfare of sailors in the port of Vancouver, but the information about this work is far from complete.

In the summer of 1892, the Sailor's Rest was founded in the city. It provided recreation and entertainment, and when possible lectures. A reading room containing newspapers, periodicals and books was available by the following year and the press carried notices from time to time of concerts staged for the benefit of

the work. This organization seems to have disbanded by 1895.

In the fall of 1897 or early the following year, a fresh start was made. At that time, Rev. H.G. Fiennes-Clinton of St. James' Church gave leadership to the establishment of a Seamen's Institute which was at first housed in a building adjoining the church. The Vancouver Directory for 1897-1898 lists the organization as providing "reading and recreational rooms" which were "open every evening". This organization continued in existence throughout the balance of the period under review, and beginning in 1907, it worked in close association with the Missions to Seamen organization, which was also sponsored by the Anglican Church. Some indication of the activities of the Institute is provided by the reports to the annual meeting in the fall of 1909, for instance, which indicated that during the year there had been 11,858 visits by seamen to the Institute, 4,023 had been present at the entertainments, "several men" had been "keenly interested" in the first aid course, and 49 men had been prepared in what was called the Institute "Nautical Academy" to write the examinations in navigation and all had passed. This particular program had been the "fullest and most brilliant success".

In the fall of 1907, a Vancouver Branch of the British and Foreign Sailors' Society was established. This organization appears to have sponsored what was called the Strathcona Institute which provided services to sailors. Captain Eddy, who also lectured at the Marine School operated by the Dominion government, conducted classes in navigation for the Strathcona Institute two nights a week which were reportedly "well attended".

21. Education for Oriental Immigrants

As in the case of Victoria and other centers in the province, the churches were active in missionary work among the oriental immigrants.

A. Chinese

When the railroad was completed to the West coast in 1886, a large number of Chinese who had been engaged in that project were

thrown out of work and many of them joined the small Chinatown which already existed in Vancouver.[34] The history of the growth of that community does not form part of this study, but it should be pointed out that for at least three decades after the turn of the century there was serious hostility to the orientals in the community, producing the levying and periodic increase in the head tax against them; the serious riots and attacks on the Chinese and Japanese districts in 1907; and the activities of the Asiatic Exclusion League and others which aimed at reducing their numbers and limiting their role in society. The work which was carried out by the churches on behalf of these groups was done in the face of a widespread body of public opinion against them.

Missionary work among the Chinese people in Vancouver began as early as 1888. The Methodist and the Presbyterian Churches began active educational work in the early 1890's among the Chinese. Rev. John E. Gardiner, who had done important pioneering work among the Chinese in Victoria on behalf of the Methodist Church for some years, conducted language classes and missionary work in Vancouver from 1894 to 1896. Work among the women included teaching "English, sewing, knitting and other household arts".[35] An item in the Methodist Reader in October 1899, stated that "Our night schools have reopened after a short holiday. At Vancouver we have enrolled nearly fifty pupils". Disappointingly little is known about the work of the Presbyterian Church among the Chinese in this period. By 1894, the Presbyterians had four Chinese schools operating in Vancouver which opened five nights a week for classes for adults.[36]

Little is known about the development of this work in the early years of the new century. Reports delivered to the quadrennial General Conferences of the Methodist Church give some indication of that denomination's efforts. In 1906, it was reported that the work among the Chinese in the city included night schools, Bible classes and street preaching and that there were five missionaries and four teachers engaged in the work. Only the missionary work was referred to in the reports for 1910, but in 1914 it was stated that at that time there were 125 Chinese students in their

night schools in Vancouver. The Presbyterian women's society continued its activities on behalf of Chinese women. In 1913 they reported they were conducting English classes in homes in Chinatown for women and girls. In addition, instruction was given in knitting, crocheting and making of children's shoes. The following year it was reported that there were 70 people in the evening classes for Chinese and that there had been such an eager response to this work that the classes were maintained throughout the summer months, when attendance had "scarcely gone below seventy". Instruction was given in spelling, reading and composition four nights a week from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.

The Anglican Church was also active in this work. In the early 1890's a night school for Chinese was opened at Christ Church and a Chinese Mission Aid Association was formed to support work among these immigrants in the diocese. F.A. Peake states: "A room on Pender Street was obtained for the school which had the support of the clergy of Christ Church and St. Paul's as well as of a number of enthusiastic women. In 1893 the school was moved to larger premises on Pender, "where it would be possible to have a reading room and sitting room, chapel, kitchen, and rooms for a dozen or so men 'to live'". Ten years later the work was moved to a building on Homer Street. The school was open five evenings a week, "with an average attendance of thirty-five Chinese pupils and four volunteer teachers".

The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel was also active in this work in British Columbia, beginning in 1905. A book about their activities stated in 1925 that "over 20,000 Chinese have passed through the night school of the Vancouver Mission during the last twenty years". It further states, however,that the bulk of that activity had taken place in the eight years prior to 1925. So how much of it was carried out before 1914 and what the character of that work was, is not clear. It did state that two missions with their own buildings were operating in Vancouver by 1925.[37] Finally, in an article about private tutoring activities in the city of Vancouver which appeared in the press in the fall of 1909, reference was made to the fact that private tutors

in the city had been getting work "instructing Asiatic students in the English they assiduously demand".[38]

B. Japanese

The numbers of Japanese in the province was much smaller than that of the Chinese, but significant work was done in the field of adult education. Missionary work began in the late 1880's, but it appears that the first English language classes were not offered until a Methodist layman, Mr. Shinkichi Tamura, made his house available for this work in 1891. Classes were held five days a week and were staffed mainly by volunteers from the Methodist Church. Thirty to 40 students attended these classes. The historian of this church activity among the Japanese has commented that the teaching of English "later became one of the most important services which the Japanese Christian Church rendered to the Japanese Canadian Community and through which the church became the most powerful institutic to help Japanese assimilate into Canadian communities".[39] It is an indication of the energy and resourcefulness of this group that by 1896, the night school activity for their people was run and financed by the Japanese themselves. The following year, there were over 30 students in the night school language classes. In addition, women missionaries formed groups of women and girls which met in homes and were, according to Rev. T. Komiyama, who has written about this work, instruction was given in "the Canadian way of cooking, etiquette and customs, and so on, and of course the language".[40] By 1907, there were 80 night school students in the program run by the Methodist Church, and in 1914 there were 95.

The Methodist Church was the dominant force in Christian missionary and educational work among the Japanese in the city. The Anglicans carried on some work, however. In 1904 they opened a school for Japanese, primarily a day school for the children. In 1909, in an upstairs room over their mission building on 2nd Avenue, they expanded the work with an upgraded day school for the children and sewing and reading classes for the women.

C. East Indians

Only one reference has been located to educational activities

among the East Indian immigrants. In his work on the activities of the Anglican Church in the province, F.A. Peake states that efforts on behalf of the East Indians begar in 1913, when English classes were organized for these immigrants for the first time.[41]

22. Organizations Devoted to the Study of Science

Although little is known about their activities, there is evidence during this period of several organizations which were devoted to the study of specialized branches of Science. The earliest of these which has been noted was the B.C. Entomological Society. The press reported that it was formed during January of 1902 and that at its first meeting members brought specimens for examination and discussion by the other group. The first annual meeting was held a year later in Victoria and was attended by six persons. The next word of this group was dated December of 1911, when the press reported a one-day annual meeting held in Vancouver. At that time, in addition to the normal business, a scientific paper was delivered and reports were heard "from the four districts represented in the Provincial Society".

The Vancouver Naturalist Field Club was formed in late 1905 or early the following year. The first activity of which evidence has been found was a field trip taken in late August of that year. At the first annual meeting, held in October, William Burns, the Principal of the Normal School, became president of the group. Meetings resumed in January of 1907 and the following month a very active program for the following spring and summer was printed in the local press. Notice was carried of the next annual meeting in the fall of the year (erroneously referred to again as the first such), but no further word of the organization has been discovered.

In 1909, the British Columbia Academy of Science was formed in Vancouver. The stated purposes were to foster research and to bring together people from various branches of science who had hitherto been working separately. In December of that year, the News Advertiser carried a long account of a lecture by Dr. J.F. Clarke to this group on "The Forest Resources of British Columbia", one of the few instances which has been noted of scientific interest

in that important aspect of the province's resources. In the fall of 1910, the group held its meetings in the rooms of McGill College, one lecture being delivered on "Four-dimensional Space" and another on the Calendar.

By the fall of 1911, the Vancouver Archaeological Society was holding meetings. Professor Charles Knapp of Columbia University addressed a meeting of this organization on "The Roman Theater" in late November. As usual with this group, the public was invited to attend as well, free of charge. Further lectures were given in January and February of 1912. The press reported in the fall of that year the proceedings of the annual meeting of the "Vancouver Branch of the Archaeological Institute of America", and this may have been the formal name of the Vancouver group. This account revealed that a number of prominent citizens were members of the group, Judge F.W. Howay being the president at that time. Accounts of further meetings appeared from time to time, the audience for a lecture about Rome by a visiting professor from Stanford University having "crowded the hall of the King Edward High School" in March of 1913. In January of the following year, the press carried an account of the group's recent annual meeting and a list of several lectures which were scheduled for the coming months.

A Vancouver branch of the Royal Sanitary Institute of London, England, was formed in 1912. Dr. J.G. Davidson of McGill College spoke during October to what must have been one of its first meetings on "Light and Heat". The press report described the group as having been "lately formed". In the following February the group met in the city testing laboratory and heard a lecture on "Sanitary Ideals in Chemical Engineering". In the fall of that year, the organization arranged a series of weekly lectures on Water which was described as being of use to those preparing to be sanitary inspectors or "lady health visitors". This series carried on into the following year, the press reporting early in January the thirteenth lecture in "the Sanitary Science Series". The group was organized at the provincial level as well and this body organized in late October the "first public health congress" held in the city, at which prominent persons gave scientific and technical papers on a wide range of topics.

23. Agricultural Organizations and Exhibitions

Vancouver was not, of course, primarily an agricultural community. There were very few agricultural organizations based in the city, although some of the provincial bodies held their annual meetings in the city from time to time. The Vancouver newspapers took a considerable interest in agricultural matters and of course carried advertisements and notices for the various agricultural fairs in the general area, most prominently the annual exhibition held in New Westminster in the early fall. While it lasted, the exhibition of the Delta Agricultural Society held each fall at Ladner's Landing also was given coverage. This was also true of the Richmond Fair at Eburne.

The first Association which was actually based in Vancouver was the Vancouver Poultry Association, which was holding meetings and preparing for a show by the fall of 1894. It later became the Vancouver Poultry and Pet Stock Association. A struggling Vancouver Horticultural Society was meeting by January of 1905, with only 10 persons attending its annual meeting at that time. It apparently went out of existence subsequently, because during the fall of 1913, as a result of several meetings, a Vancouver Horticultural Association was formed, "to have lectures and papers at intervals during the winter months on subjects interesting to lovers of horticulture". Vancouver's first horse show, arranged by "The Hunt Club and the Livestock Association" was held in mid-March of 1908 and a second one a year later.

Although the matter had been under discussion as early as 1902, and an Exhibition Association had been active since 1907, Vancouver did not hold its own comprehensive exhibition until the late summer of 1911, the first of what was to be an annual event held at Hastings Park.

24. The Newspapers

Finally, some reference should be made to local newspapers as an educational influence. It might be useful to comment on the development of one leading local newspaper by way of illustration

of the educational efforts which were made. The example chosen is the News Advertiser, the newspaper which was followed most closely for the purposes of this study. In the fall of 1898, in addition to its regular content of news, editorials and advertisements, the News Advertiser began to carry a "Literary Notes" column approximately weekly. It contained information about new books, the people in them, information out of biographical works and other related material. The apparent intention was to encourage subscribers to read some of these other works. For some time this material appeared under the heading "Books and Writers". In 1901, material began to be printed frequently about art, music and various aspects of literature. The whole front page of a second section which was published in the Sunday edition began to be devoted to such material. In December of that year, "The Poet's Corner" began to appear periodically, containing poetry from various sources. The reader had the feeling in this case that this material, which appeared sporadically, was mainly designed as a filler. By 1906, a great deal more special interest material was being carried, again especially in the weekend paper - under such headings as poetry, photography, books, music. These sections contained not only criticism, but also general information about these fields. In 1910, the paper expanded greatly in volume and this tendency to print specialized informative material was accentuated, appearing under such headings as the home, cultural subjects, historical and scientific topics, economics, regions of the province and special articles on individual cities and natural resources. Of particular interest to the historian, for example, was a series of biographical articles about prominent citizens which was run weekly beginning in 1913 under the heading "The Story of My Life". By 1914, the special feature material carried on the weekends was even further expanded, including long articles on such subjects as "Garden, Field and Farm", cooking and other household arts, automobiles, etc., in addition to the kinds of topics mentioned above. From the turn of the century, and especially after 1910, those who wished to do so could get a great deal of useful information about a wide variety of subjects from the pages of their daily newspaper.

FOOTNOTES

1. Gordon R. Selman, Some Aspects of the History of Adult Education in British Columbia Before 1914: A Preliminary Survey, typescript-xerox, 276 pp., available on loan from the author.

2. R.D. Waller, A Design for Democracy, London, Max Parrish, 1956, p.59.

3. Alan Morley, Vancouver From Milltown to Metropolis, Vancouver, Mitchell Press, 1961, p.62.

4. See Patricia Roy, The Rise of Vancouver as a Metropolitan Center 1886-1929, Unpublished B.A. Thesis, U.B.C., 1960, pp.357 ff.

5. Vancouver News Advertiser (hereafter, N.A.) June 13, 1914.

6. Elizabeth Walker, "Vancouver Public Library - Before Carnegie", B.C. Library Quarterly, Vol. 20, No. 2, (Oct. 1966) p.3.

7. These figures taken from newspaper accounts.

8. N.A., Feb. 4, 1912.

9. Vancouver News, Sept. 14, 17, 30, 1886.

10. N.A., Nov. 17, 1907; Oct. 18, 1908; Dec. 15, 1909.

11. N.A., Nov. 11, 1890.

12. Docket on "Burrard Literary Society" in Vancouver City Archives.

13. N.A., Oct. 4, 1896.

14. Roy W. Ginn, "Oratory and War: Vancouver Debating League's Development", Westminster Hall Magazine and Farthest West Review, Vol. IV, No. 4-5, (Oct. - Nov. 1913) p.17.

15. N.A., Jan. 5, 1913.

16. Journal of the Art, Historical and Scientific Association of Vancouver, B.C., Vancouver, Trythal and Son, 1917, p.4.

17. N.A., April 20, 1905.

18. See Wylie W. Thom, The Fine Arts in Vancouver 1886-1930: An Historical Survey, Unpublished M.A. Thesis, U.B.C., 1969, p.31.

19. N.A., Jan. 12, 1907.

20. N.A., March 10, 1907.

21. N.A., Jan. 7, 1908.

22. Report of the Fifth Annual Convention of the British Columbia School Trustees' Association (1908), Vancouver, A.H. Timms, 1909, p.10.

23. N.A., Oct. 5, 1909.

24. Bert Wales, The Development of Adult Education in British Columbia, Unpublished Ed.D. Thesis, Oregon State College, 1958, p.49.

25. The B.C. Federationist, Oct. 3, 1914, pp. 1 and 4.

26. N.A., Jan. 22, 1910.

27. N.A., Jan. 19, 1911.

28. Vancouver Province, Oct. 9, 1909.

29. N.A., Feb. 27, 1907.

30. J.K. Foster, "Vocational Education in British Columbia 1870-1930", (Working Title) Draft of M.A. Thesis, made available by the author, Ch. I, p.6.

31. Ibid., Ch. V, p.2.

32. N.A., Feb. 5, Oct. 11, 1911.

33. N.A., October 30, 31, 1912; Jan. 23, Oct. 5, 1913.

34. W.E. Willmott, "Approaches to the Study of Chinese in British Columbia", B.C. Studies, No. 4, (Spring 1970) p.47.

35. S.S. Osterhout, Orientals in Canada, Toronto, United Church of Canada, 1929, p.184.

36. M.E. Kennedy, The History of Presbyterianism in B.C. 1861-1935, Unpublished M.A. Thesis, U.B.C., 1938, p.36.

37. H.A. Hellaby, Oriental Missions in British Columbia, London, F.P.G. in Foreign Parts, 1925, pp. 45 and 90.

38. Vancouver Province, Oct. 9, 1909.

39. Tadashi Mitsui, The Ministry of the United Church of Canada amongst Japanese Canadians in B.C. 1892 - 1949, Unpublished M.S.T. Thesis, Union College of B.C., 1964, p.11.

40. Rev. T. Komiyama, "Missionary Work among the Japanese in Canada", Unpublished manuscript in Archives of Union College of B.C., undated, p.5.

41. F.A. Peake, The Anglican Church in British Columbia, Vancouver, Mitchell Press, 1959, p.146.